# LINDEN LEGAL AID CENTRE INC.

**DECEMBER 31, 2015** 

# **AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**



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# REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF LINDEN LEGAL AID CENTRE INC.

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Linden Legal Aid Centre Inc., which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2015, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities and the Companies Act Cap. 89:01, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements on pages 1 to 10 present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of **Linden Legal Aid Centre Inc.** as at December 31, 2015, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities and the Companies Act Cap. 89:01.

Ram & McRae
Chartered Accountants
Professional Services Firm
157 'C' Waterloo Street,
Georgetown

July 27, 2017

## **Statement of Financial Position**

As at December 31, 2015

	Notes	2015 G\$	2014 G\$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	3,213,924	1,082,198
Prepayment		10,000	
Total current assets		3,223,924	1,082,198
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable		249,690	246,000
Total current liabilities		249,690	246,000
Net current assets		2,974,234	836,198
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	4	520,730	94,250
Non-current liabilities			
Deferred income	4	322,712	_
Net assets		3,172,252	930,448
Represented by:			
Accumulated surplus		3,172,252	930,448
Total equity		3,172,252	930,448

Director

Joan Word Mas Company Secretary

The notes on pages 5 to 10 form an integral part of these financial statements.

# **Statement of Comprehensive Income**

For the year ended December 31, 2015

	Notes	2015 G\$	2014 G\$
Revenue			
Bank interest		3,270	6,310
Consultancy fees		42,500	-
Donations		6,500	
Grants	5	6,374,088	
Legal fees		165,500	
Total income		6,591,858	6,310
Expenses			
Operating expenses	6	434,020	15,000
Administrative expenses	7	3,895,380	136,610
Financial charges		20,654	2,662
Total expenses		4,350,054	154,272
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		2,241,804	(147,962)

The notes on pages 5 to 10 form an integral part of these financial statements.

# Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended December 31, 2015

	Accumulated surplus/(deficit) G\$
At January 01, 2014	1,078,410
Deficit for the year	(147,962)
At December 31, 2014	930,448
Surplus for the year	2,241,804
At December 31, 2015	3,172,252

The notes on pages 5 to 10 form an integral part of these financial statements.

# **Statement of Cash Flows**

For the year ended December 31, 2015

	2015	2014
	G\$	G\$
Cash flows from operating activities		
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	2,241,804	(147,962)
Adjustments for:		
Donated assets	322,712	
Depreciation	52,078	21,750
Operating surplus/(deficit) before working capital changes	2,616,594	(126,212)
(Increase) in accounts payable	(10,000)	
Decrease in accounts payable	3,690	82,000
Net cash flows from operating activities	2,610,284	(44,212)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Acquisition of office furniture and equipment	(478,558)	merchal di emerce
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	2,131,726	(44,212)
Cash and cash equivalents at January 1,	1,082,198	1,126,410
Cash and cash equivalents at December 31,	3,213,924	1,082,198
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents as shown in the Statement of Fin	ancial Position	
Cash at bank	3,213,924	1,082,198
Total	3,213,924	1,082,198

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2015

#### 1. Incorporation and principal activity

The Company was incorporated in the Co-operative Republic of Guyana on September 24, 2007 as a not-for-profit entity without share capital. The principal objective of the Company is to provide free or subsidised legal advice and representation to persons of the Linden Community who, because of lack of means, would otherwise have their need for such advice and representation unmet.

The Company's registered office is located at Christianburg Magistrate's Court Building, Burnham Drive, Linden.

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on July 27, 2017.

#### Statement of accounting policies

#### (a) Basis of accounting

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The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities and the Companies Act Cap. 89:01 under the historical

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Application of new and revised Standards and Interpretations

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are consistent with those followed in the preparation of the financial statements for the prior year except for the adoption of new and amended standards and interpretations which became effective during the period. The adoption of these pronouncements had no impact on the financial position or performance of the Company.

Standards and Interpretations not yet effective

At the date of authorisation of these financial statements several new and amended standards and interpretations were in issue but not yet effective. The Company has not early adopted any such pronouncements. The directors anticipate that the adoption of these standards and interpretations will have no material impact on the financial statements of the Company.

## (b) Income and expenditure

Income and expenditure are dealt with in these financial statements on the accrual basis.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2015

#### 2. Statement of accounting policies continued

#### (c) Revenue recognition

Revenue from services are recognised when the service has been rendered. Donations, other than capital donations, are recognised when received. Income from grants, other than capital grants, is recognised to the extent utilised. Any unutilised amounts are credited to deferred income.

#### (d) Capital donations

Capital donations comprise the estimated or actual (if available) acquisition cost of office furniture and equipment donated in-kind as well as cash donations and grants received specifically for the acquisition of office furniture and equipment. Capital donations of non-depreciable assets are credited to capital reserve. Capital donation of depreciable assets are credited to deferred income with an amount equivalent to their annual depreciation charge transferred to the income and expenditure account each year.

#### (e) Reporting currency

These financial statements are stated in Guyana dollars. Foreign currency transactions during the year are translated at the exchange rates ruling at the dates of these transactions. Any gains or losses arising from these conversions are accounted for in the income statement in the period in which they were incurred. Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies at the statement of financial position date are translated at the rates prevailing at the end of the year.

# (f) Property, plant and equipment

Office furniture and equipment

Office furniture and equipment are stated at historical cost. Depreciation is provided for on the straight line basis at rates sufficient to write off the cost of the assets over their estimated useful lives. The rate used is as follows:

20%

3.	Cash and cash equivalents	2015	2014
		G\$	G\$

Bank balances 3,213,924 1,082,198

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

For the year ended December 31, 2015

4.	Property, plant and equipment	Office furniture G\$	Office equipment G\$	Total G\$
	Cost			
	At January 1, 2014	- 1	145,000	145,000
	Additions		3	<u> </u>
	At December 31, 2014		145,000	145,000
	Additions	346,950	131,608	478,558
	At December 31, 2015	346,950	276,608	623,558
	Depreciation			
	At January 1, 2014		29,000	29,000
	Charges for the year		21,750	21,750
	At December 31, 2014	-	50,750	50,750
	Charges for the year	17,918	34,160	52,078
	At December 31, 2015	17,918	84,910	102,828
	Net book value			
	At December 31, 2015	329,032	191,698	520,730
	At January 1, 2015	-	94,250	94,250
4.	Deferred income (non-current)		2015	2014
			G\$	G\$
	Donated depreciable assets:		322,712	

This represents the unamortised income in respect of assets donated to the Company. The full amount of \$3,205,663 was written off due to the loss of related assets in fire.

5.	Grants	2015	2014
		G\$	G\$
(i)	This balance comprises monies utilised from the following agency: Ministry of Social Protection	6,351,000	-
	Total	6,351,000	-

(i) This amount represents a cash grant received from the Ministry of Social Protection to cover expenses. The purpose of the grant was to enable the Company to refurbish its office, purchase office equipment and furniture and pay fees to the attorneys and staff for a period of six months.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

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7.

For the year ended December 31, 2015

or the year ended December 31, 2015	2015	2014
	2015	2014
	G\$	G\$
. Operating expenses		
Transportation	434,020	15,000
Total	434,020	15,000
. Administrative expenses		
Accounting, audit and tax fees	58,385	82,000
Advertising fees	45,000	
Consultancy fees	2,000,000	
Depreciation	52,078	21,750
Employment cost	1,432,155	terio de de
Meals and accommodation	64,929	32,860
Internet fees	82,970	= -
Postage and stamps	8,780	
Other expenses	20,409	
Repairs & maintenance: building	54,440	
Stationery	76,234	-
Total	3,895,380	136,610

#### 8. Taxation

The Company is a not-for-profit organisation and has therefore prepared these financial statements under the assumption that an exemption from taxes will be granted.

## 9. Financial Risk Management

Exposure to credit, interest rate, foreign currency, market, liquidity and cash flow risks arises in the ordinary course of business. The activities of the Company however, do not expose it to significant financial risks. Management nevertheless seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Company by applying procedures to appropriately identify, evaluate and manage any risks which may arise. No derivative investments are presently used to manage, mitigate or eliminate exposure to financial instrument units.

## (i) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss. The Company's only exposure to credit risks is in respect of its bank balances. While the Company holds no collateral in respect of these balances, their credit quality are considered high as the counterparties are financial institutions with no known liquidity

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2015

#### 9. Financial Risk Management continued

#### (ii) Interest rate risk

This is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates. The Company earns interest on its cash deposits and none of its liabilities are subject to interest. The values of the cash deposits and liabilities are not influenced by future changes in interest rates.

#### (iii) Foreign Currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates. The Company would incur foreign currency risk on transactions that are denominated in a currency other than the Guyana dollar. The Company is however not exposed to foreign currency risks.

#### (iv) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual security, its issuer or factors affecting all securities traded in the market. The Company has no exposure to market risk as it has no traded securities.

#### (v) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk, also referred to as funding risk, is the risk that the Company will encounter difficulty in raising funds to meet its commitments associated with financial instruments. Liquidity risk may result from an inability to sell a financial asset quickly at, or close to, its fair value. Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash and marketable securities, and the availability of funding through an adequate amount of committed facilities.

The Company manages this risk by maintaining adequate financial assets in liquid form and continuously seeking commitments from donors. All financial liabilities were payable within thirty days of the period end.

The Company therefore has sufficient liquidity to fund liabilities as they fall due. Cash and cash equivalents include amounts treated as deferred income which will be utilised to fund future activities.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2015

## 9. Financial Risk Management continued

#### (vi) Cash flow risk

Cash flow risk is the risk that future cash flows associated with a monetary financial instrument will fluctuate in amount and timing. The Company's financial assets are not expected to realise less than their carrying values.

#### 10. Fair values of financial instruments

The fair value of cash and cash equivalents and accounts payable approximate to their carrying values due to their short term nature.

#### 11. Capital management

The Company manages its capital, represented by accumulated deficit on its statement of financial position, to ensure that it will be able to continue operating into the foreseeable future.

#### 12. Contingent liability

A contingent liability exists in respect of a claim for rental by National Industrial Commercial Investments Limited (NICIL) in respect of office space utilised in the Linmine Secretariat between the period May 2011 to July 2012. No provision has been made in the financial statements as the directors are of the opinion that no rental should have been charged.